



POLICY & PROCEDURE:	3.02
UNIT:	Special Response Unit
CHAPTER:	Vehicles and Equipment
SUBJECT:	Specialized Weapons, Equipment, Munitions and Chemical Agents
ISSUED DATE:	December 15, 1994
REVISION DATE:	January 6, 2025
NOTES:	
RELATED ORDERS:	POST SWAT Operational Guidelines: 8.2,8.3 NTOA SWAT Standards: 5.4 G.O. 1.05, 1.08, 1.21
ATTACHMENTS:	

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for issuing, maintaining, using and controlling specialized weapons, equipment, munitions and chemical agents approved for use by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Special Response Unit (SRU).

POLICY: Missions assigned to the SRU are generally performed in a hazardous environment. Properly trained members of the SRU may utilize approved specialized weapons, equipment, munitions and chemical agents, in an attempt to lessen the risk of injury or death to all involved parties during the performance of a tactical operation.

PROCEDURE:

A. ISSUED WEAPONS:

1. All SRU members will use their departmental issued Sig Sauer P226 or P320 Pro pistol.
 - a. The Range Master, or the Range Master's designee, maintains an inventory of Sig Sauer P226R Elite and Sig Sauer P320 Pro pistols assigned to all sworn Agency personnel, including members assigned to the SRU. All Agency owned firearms' serial numbers are maintained on the Agency's Master Weapons Inventory List.
 - b. Agency members assigned a Sig Sauer P320 Pro pistol will have the option to equip the firearm with an approved miniaturized red dot sighting system.
 - c. Maintenance will be conducted in accordance with General Order (GO) 1.08.
2. SRU members will be issued an M-4 or AR-15 Rifle as their primary shoulder fire weapon.
 - a. All rifles will have one of the following sighting systems attached:
 - i. EO Tech Fixed Holographic Sight
 - ii. Elcan Spector Optical Sight (1x/4x switchable)
 - iii. **Nightforce ATACR 1-8x24mm Low Power Variable Optic**

3. Each SRU member is responsible for the control, care, and maintenance of his/her issued equipment, including all firearms. Each member will coordinate necessary repairs, or maintenance beyond his/her scope of capability with the Agency Range Master, or Range Master's designee.
4. The SRU Logistics Deputy is responsible for the accountability and inventory of all weapons assigned to the SRU.
 - a. The Logistics Deputy will maintain a current inventory of all weapons issued to SRU team members, including related serial numbers.
 - b. The Logistics Deputy will occasionally compare the SRU weapons inventory list with the Agency's Master Weapons Inventory List, to ensure information is accurate and all weapons are accounted for.
 - c. SRU rifles shall be stored inside the secured Ford Tactical Equipment Truck in the secured storage bay of ACSO Dispatch when not in use, unless otherwise authorized by the SRU Commanding Officer, or the SRU Commanding Officer's designee.
 - d. SRU rifle usage shall be documented on the Weapons Inventory Log, with weapons being signed-out and signed-in as appropriate.
 - e. The Logistics Deputy shall compare the Weapons Inventory Log to the weapons in the Armory, at least twice per month, to ensure all weapons are properly accounted for.
 - f. The Logistics Deputy shall complete an Inventory Reconciliation Report of all weapons annually and submit to the SRU Commanding Officer.

B. SPECIALIZED WEAPONS:

1. Specialized weapons utilized by the SRU is any firearm other than those listed in Section "A" of this policy (Sig Sauer P226 and P320 Pro pistols, M-4/AR-15 Rifle) or any weapon fitted with non-standard stocks, sights, scopes, silencers, grips or other non-standard configurations.
2. Rifles issued to the SRU Reconnaissance Team are considered specialized weapons, including:
 - a. .308 Caliber Rifle with Telescopic Sight
 - b. .338 Lapua **Magnum** Bolt Action Rifle
 - c. .223 Caliber Carbine with Telescopic Sight
3. 40 mm launchers used as a delivery system for less lethal munitions and chemical agents are considered specialized weapons.
4. Only SRU personnel who have received specialized training and have appropriately qualified with the specialized weapons listed, may be assigned to deploy them during a tactical operation, or other non-training event.
5. If given specialized weapons to deploy, SRU personnel must advise their team leader if they have not received the specialized training.

6. The Logistics Deputy is responsible for the care, control and maintenance of all specialized weapons, with the exception of Reconnaissance Team rifles and shall:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- b. Ensure all related inventories are accurate and up to date;
- c. Coordinate with Agency Range Master, or the Agency Range Master's designee, to ensure the Agency's Master Weapons Inventory List, is accurate and all weapons are accounted for;
- d. Coordinate with the Agency Range Master, or the Agency Range Master's designee, for required repairs or maintenance;
- e. Coordinate with the Agency Range Master, or the Agency Range Master's designee, to ensure all weapons are safe and properly functioning, in accordance to GO 1.08.

C. SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT:

1. SRU utilizes specialized tactical equipment, including but not limited to:
 - a. Ballistic shield.
 - b. **Munitions**-pole.
 - c. Electronic surveillance equipment.
 - d. Ladder.
 - e. Mechanical breaching devices (Rams, Slide Rakes, etc.).
 - f. Night vision devices.
 - g. Pole camera.
2. Tactical Equipment is stored in the various Tactical Response Vehicles in a constant state of operational readiness, as indicated in SRU P&P 3.03.
3. The SRU Logistics Deputy is responsible to conduct a monthly inventory of all Specialized Equipment using the SRU Equipment Inventory Log.
4. SRU shall conduct training over the course of the year to ensure team members are familiar and proficient with the usage of all specialized equipment, as indicated in SRU P&P 1.06.

5. Only SRU members who have received training and demonstrated proficiency shall be assigned to use specialized equipment during a tactical operation, or other non-training event.

D. LIGHT-SOUND DIVERSIONARY DEVICES:

1. The Agency approved Light Sound Diversionary Devices (LSDD), are instruments used to temporarily disorient targeted suspects. The device is designed to use noise and flashes to distract, disorient, or overwhelm targeted suspects.
2. LSDDs should be deployed when the diversion effect caused by the device will safely provide operators a tactical advantage during a rapid entry. This device should not be utilized in a potentially hazardous environment including chemical and/or methamphetamine labs, or when known children are present at a target location.
3. LSDDs may be considered whenever the use of a less lethal distraction would help facilitate entry, enabling arrest and potentially reducing the risk of injury by disorientation of potentially dangerous suspects. Circumstances include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Barricaded suspect and/or hostage situations;
 - b. High-risk warrant service;
 - c. In order to distract a violent person, persons experiencing a mental health crisis, or persons believed to be under the influence of alcohol/drugs and necessary to facilitate apprehension;
 - d. When the Incident Commander or Tactical Commander deems the usage necessary to safely resolve an incident.
4. The deployment of the LSDD during tactical operations shall be restricted to SRU members who have been properly trained in its usage.
5. The following safety practices should be utilized when deploying a LSDD in an actual mission, or during related training and exercises:
 - a. The operator deploying the LSDD shall identify the area in which the LSDD will come to rest, looking into the area prior to throwing the LSDD. The LSDD should never intentionally be thrown at anyone or closer than is reasonably necessary to achieve the desired result.
 - b. The operator deploying the LSDD shall wear proper eye protection.
 - c. The operator deploying the LSDD shall wear Nomex hood and gloves.
 - d. The operator deploying the LSDD shall understand the potential of the LSDD to ignite flammable materials. Because of this, the following should be considered prior to deployment if time allows:
 - i. Have a fire extinguisher available near the target location.
 - ii. Notify fire department and request unit on standby if possible.
6. The SRU Logistics Deputy shall maintain and control the LSDD inventory as follows:

- a. The Agency Range Master, or the Range Master's designee, shall order and maintain the master LSDD inventory, as well as complete all related federal documentation;
- b. The SRU Logistics Deputy will receive a designated number of LSDD, documenting the serial number of each device;
- c. The SRU Logistics Deputy will secure the LSDD in the various Tactical Response Vehicles and update the related equipment logs as appropriate;
- d. If deployed, the LSDD and serial number(s) will be documented on the related Equipment Inventory Log, the casing will be collected and disposed of, and the information will be provided to the Range Master, or the Range Master's designee, for replacement and proper documentation as required by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF).

E. LESS LETHAL MUNITIONS AND CHEMICAL AGENTS:

1. SRU has the authority to deploy less lethal munitions or chemical agents to assist with the de-escalation of potentially violent confrontations.
2. Only SRU members who have successfully completed training and demonstrated proficiency in the proper use of less lethal munitions or chemical agents, shall be authorized to deploy them during a tactical operation, or other non-training event.
3. SRU will conduct less lethal and/or chemical agent deployments in accordance to GO 1.21.
4. The SRU Logistics Deputy will receive a designated supply of less lethal munitions and chemical agent canisters from the ETS Executive Officer or Range Master.
5. The SRU Logistics Deputy will ensure the tactical response vehicles are properly supplied and each related Equipment Inventory Log is accurate and up to date.
6. When deployed, the SRU Logistics Deputy will ensure such usage is documented on the related Equipment Inventory Log and the items are replaced as necessary.

F. SRU AMMUNITION INVENTORY:

1. SRU members will be issued an appropriate amount of approved duty ammunition for their assigned weapons systems. Members are responsible to keep and maintain their issued ammunition at all times.
2. Duty ammunition fired at SRU ranges or training days will be replaced immediately.
3. The SRU Tactical Equipment Truck shall have a sufficient amount of ammunition to conduct tactical operations and training exercises.
 - a. All other ammunition is stored at the ACSO Regional Firearms Training Facility Armory.
 - b. Ammunition will be stored in a locked and secure location at all times.

G. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT INVENTORY:

1. An SRU member will be assigned as Communications Coordinator, responsible to maintain accurate inventory control of all radios assigned to the SRU Unit.

- a. The Communications Coordinator will be responsible for maintaining an inventory of all radios and communications equipment.
 - b. The Communications Coordinator will maintain all communication equipment in working order.
2. SRU Member's Responsibilities:
- a. All SRU members will be assigned a radio, headset and related communications equipment as indicated in SRU P&P 3.01.
 - b. SRU members shall bring all issued radio equipment to training, exercises and all missions.
 - c. SRU members shall immediately report missing or damaged radios, headsets, etc. to their Team Leader.
 - d. The Team Leader will direct members to the Communications Coordinator for repairs or replacement.